

Listing and Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method for optimized tracking of an optical scanner along a track of an optical recording medium, the track having information markings arranged in dense succession, and also having fundamental changes in properties in significantly lower density, the method comprising:

- ~~—formation of~~ generating a track error signal;
 - ~~—detection of the~~ detecting an occurrence of a fundamental ~~changes~~ change in ~~properties~~ a property of the track;
 - ~~—formation of~~ generating an offset value from ~~the~~ a comparison of ~~the~~ a value of the track error signal that occurs ~~shortly before and shortly after~~ the detected fundamental change in ~~properties~~ property of the track to a value of the track error signal that occurs after the detected fundamental change in property of the track;
 - ~~—formation of~~ generating the track error signal, taking account of the offset value;
- and
- ~~—repetition of~~ repeating the aforementioned steps.

2. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the detection of the occurrence of the fundamental ~~changes in properties~~ change in property of the track is effected by detection of a header area.

3. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the track error signal is ~~formed by means of one of the tracking methods:~~ generated by a tracking method comprising one of a push-pull method, a three-beam method and a differential push-pull method.

4. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a different signal that is impaired by ~~the~~ a track offset of the optical scanner is ~~formed~~ generated instead of the track error signal.

5. (currently amended) An apparatus for reading from and/or writing to optical recording media ~~having~~ including tracks having information markings arranged in dense succession, and fundamental changes in properties that occur in significantly lower density, the apparatus ~~having~~ comprising:

a track control loop and for generating a track error signal;

a track property change detector for detecting a track property change and generating a signal in response to the detection; and

~~wherein it has~~ an offset value detector generator, which, in a manner dependent on a the signal output generated by the track property change detector, generates an offset value ~~from a~~ from a comparison of a value of the track error signal that occurs before the detection of the track property change to a value of the track error signal of the track control loop that occurs after the detection of the track property change and feeds said offset value to the track control loop.